

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A two-dimensional image of a substrate surface targeted for polishing is periodically picked up, and the image is analyzed to obtain an entropy H1, H2 of the two-dimensional image. An end point of polishing is  
5 then determined according to the entropy H1, H2. Alternatively, other image characteristic value such as a difference statistic of the image may be employed instead of the entropy H1, H2.